

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend claims 4, 20, and 22 as follows:

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method for grouping subscribers by common preferences, the steps comprising:

providing a subscriber access to a computerized database having stored profile information from fellow subscribers;

registering and storing profile information from said subscriber into said database;

grouping said subscriber with at least two of said fellow subscribers to form at least one group based on similarities between said subscriber's profile information and said fellow subscribers' profile information wherein all of the subscribers' profiles in said group are similar to each other;

utilizing an algorithm to determine a level of similarity between said subscriber's profile information and said fellow ~~subscriber's~~ subscribers' profile information, wherein preferences are assigned integer values concatenated to form a lookup key, and used to access an entry in a table containing the corresponding similarity value between two preferences; and

summing similarity values for all profile preferences to create a final similarity total

for said subscribers; and

communicating said final similarity of said group to said subscribers.

5. (Original) The method stated in claim 4, wherein said step of utilizing an algorithm further comprises the steps of:

requiring that the similarity values between subscribers exceeds a threshold value.

6-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A method for grouping subscribers by common preferences, the steps comprising:

providing a subscriber access to a computerized database having stored profile information from fellow subscribers;

registering and storing profile information, including biographical information on personal preferences, of said subscriber into said database;

entering a group selection criteria that ~~identified~~ identifies characteristics and interests which subscribers must have to be included in a candidate group;

creating a candidate list of subscribers based on the group selection criteria;

grouping said subscribers from said candidate list with at least two fellow subscribers to form at least one group based on similarities between said subscriber's profile information and said fellow subscribers' profile information wherein all of the subscribers' profiles in said group are similar to each other;

grouping said subscriber with at least two of said fellow subscribers by applying an

algorithm to determine a level of similarity between said subscriber and said fellow subscribers, wherein preference disclosed in said subscriber's profile information are assigned integer values concatenated to form a lookup key[[,]] and used to access an entry in a table containing the corresponding similarity value between the two preferences;

summing similarity values for all profile preferences to create a final similarity total for said subscribers;

providing capability whereby said subscriber selects final group members from the candidate list; and

displaying said group of said subscribers.

21. (Previously Presented) The method stated in claim 20, wherein the size of the group can be specified for grouping of said subscribers into said group.

22. (Currently Amended) The method stated in claim 21, wherein the ~~subscribers~~ subscribers' preferred meeting times are considered as criteria in grouping said subscribers into said group.

23-31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) A method for grouping subscribers by common preferences, comprising the steps of:

providing a subscriber access to a computerized database having stored profile information from fellow subscribers;

registering and storing profile information of said subscriber into said database;

using an algorithm to determine a level of similarity between said subscriber and other subscribers' profile information, wherein profile fields are assigned values and used to create a lookup key to access an entry in a table containing the corresponding similarity value between two fields;

summing similarity values for said subscriber and other subscribers to create final similarity totals between subscribers;

grouping said subscriber with at least two of said fellow subscribers to form at least one group based on similarity totals between all subscribers in said group; and

communicating said final similarity of said group to said subscribers.

33. (Previously Presented) A method for grouping subscribers by common preferences, comprising the steps of:

providing a subscriber access to a computerized database having stored profile information from fellow subscribers;

registering and storing profile information of said subscriber into said database;

using an algorithm to determine a level of similarity between said subscriber and other subscribers' profile information, wherein profile fields are assigned values and used to create a lookup key to access an entry in a table containing the corresponding similarity value between two fields;

summing similarity values for said subscriber and other subscribers to create final similarity totals between subscribers;

grouping said subscriber with at least two of said fellow subscribers to form at least

one group wherein multiple fields in each subscribers' profile are similar; and
communicating said final similarity of said group to said subscribers.

34. (Previously Presented) A method for grouping subscribers by common preferences,
comprising the steps of:

providing a subscriber access to a computerized database having stored profile
information from fellow subscribers;

registering and storing profile information of said subscriber into said database;

using an algorithm to determine a level of similarity between said subscriber and other
subscribers' profile information, wherein profile fields are assigned values and used to create
a lookup key to access an entry in a table containing the corresponding similarity value
between two fields;

summing similarity values for said subscriber and other subscribers to create final
similarity totals between subscribers;

grouping said subscriber with at least two of said fellow subscribers to form at least
one group of a specified size wherein multiple fields in each subscribers' profile are similar;
and

communicating said final similarity of said group to said subscribers.

35-40. (Canceled)